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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HUD-02 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 EPA-04 OES-07 /044 W
----------075018 011217Z /20
R 011035Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9874

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DEPT PASS HUD HANCOCK

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TGEN, UR, US
SUBJECT: US-USSR HOUSING AGREEMENT: CONSTRUCTION IN EXTREME GEOLOGICAL AND CLIMATIC CONDITIONS (10.05)

REF: (A) STATE 13809, (B) MOSCOW 5158

1. ON MARCH 31 EMBASSY RECEIVED UNDATED LETTER FROM SOVIET HEAD OF SUBJECT PROJECT, V. G. IVANOV, TO HIS US COUNTER-PART TERENCE KIRKLAND. INFORMAL EMBASSY TRANSLATION FOLLOWS PARA 2 BELOW. ORIGINAL LETTER POUCHED TO HUD FOR HANCOCK, REGISTRY NO. 952757.

2. DEAR MR. KIRKLAND:

THE DELAY IN OUR RESPONSE WAS CAUSED BY THE NECESSITY TO STUDY THE AMERICAN SIDE'S PROPOSALS PERTAINING TO A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS SET FORTH BY THE AMERICAN SIDE DURING THE DISCUSSIONS IN DECEMBER 1977 BETWEEN LIEUTENANT-GENERAL JOHN V. MORRIS, CHIEF, CORPS OF ENGINEERS, AND I. T. NOVOKOV, CHAIRMAN, USSR GOSSTROY. IT WAS ALSO CONNECTED WITH OUR WORKING ON THE QUESTIONS SET IN YOUR LETTER OF JANUARY 18, 1978.
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AS TO TECHNICAL QUESTIONS ON STUDIES OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF SMALL HYDRO-POWER PLANTS AND ON THE THEME OF "BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES" AS IT PERTAINS TO BUILDING OF PREFABRICA-TED REINFORCED CONCRETE CONSTRUCTIONS AND EQUIPMENT FOR BUILDING MAINTENANCE, IN 1977 WE ACHIEVED A GENERAL UNDERSTANDING ON POSSIBILITIES OF STUDIES OF THESE

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PROBLEMS. AT PRESENT THE COMPETENT DEPARTMENTS ARE WORKING ON THESE QUESTIONS AND IT IS DESIRABLE THAT YOU SHOULD SEND US DETAILED PROGRAMS OF STUDIES OF THESE PROBLEMS.

THEME "NAVIGATION AND WATERWAYS" AND THE PROGRAM FOR THIS THEME IS SOMEWHAT BEYOND THE FRAMEWORK OF ACTIVITIES OF THE USSR GOSSTROY. HOWEVER, WE HAVE MADE INQUIRIES AT THE COMPETENT DEPARTMENTS AND WOULD LIKE TO GET FROM YOU A MORE DETAILED LIST OF QUESTIONS ON THIS THEME.

ON RECEIVING THE MENTIONED MATERIALS FROM THE AMERICAN SIDE WE COULD ASCERTAIN AT GREATER LENGTH OUR POSSIBILITIES AND FIX MORE DEFINITE DATES FOR THE AMERICAN SPECIALISTS VISIT IN THE USSR WITH DUE REGARD FOR THE WISHES STATED IN YOUR LETTER.

AS TO THE VISIT OF SOVIET SPECIALISTS ON THEMES PROVIDED BY THE PROTOCOL OF DECEMBER 4-14, 1977, IN THE PART "CONSTRUCTION AND MANAGEMENT" IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE THAT OUR GROUP'S WORK BE COMBINED TO A CERTAIN EXTENT WITH THE WORK AT THE NEXT SESSION IN THE USA OF THE US-USSR COMMITTEE ON CONSTRUCTION AS IT WAS DECIDED IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR. THUS AUGUST 10 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 25 IS THE MOST CONVENIENT TIME FOR OUR SPECIALISTS' WORK IN THE USA.
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THE SOVIET SIDE IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE FOLLOWING ASPECTS OF THE BUILDING INDUSTRY:

- GENERAL QUESTIONS OF PRACTICAL ORGANIZATION OF CONTRACTOR'S ACTIVITIES MANAGEMENT IN THE USA (STRUCTURES, SPECIALIZATION, SCOPE, MANAGEMENT SCHEMES);

- LABOR RESOURCES, LABOR RESOURCES MANAGEMENT, IMPROVEMENT OF PROFESSIONAL SKILL OF BUILDERS;

- BUILDING QUALITY MANAGEMENT;

- MANAGEMENT OF PROGRAMS ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY PROVISIONS;

- MODERN TENDENCIES OF ACHIEVING PERFECTION IN CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY MANAGEMENT (EXEMPLIFIED BY CONSTRUCTION OF ATOMIC POWER PLANTS, BIG METALLURGICAL AND CHEMICAL COMPLEXES, TRANSPORTATION, SEA PORTS, CONSTRUCTION DF BIG WATERWAYS);

- PRACTICE OF THE SYSTEM APPROACH TO PROJECTS MANAGEMENT,

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APPLICATION OF SCIENTIFIC METHODS OF MANAGEMENT, COMPUTERS, OFFICE MACHINERY, MEANS OF COMMUNICATION FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT.

OUR PROPOSALS IN THE FORM OF WORKING PROGRAMS ON THE ABOVE QUESTIONS WILL BE SENT TO YOU IN APRIL THIS YEAR.
AS TO THE PROBATION WORK OF DR. ASSUR AND DR. MELLOR PROVIDED BY THE JOINT PLANS FOR 1978 IT WOULD BE CONVENIENT FOR US TO RECEIVE THEM IN THE USSR WITHIN THE PERIOD BEGINNING ON MAY 20, 1978.

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----------075037 011214Z /20
R 011035Z APR 78
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9875

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THIS LETTER HAS BEEN REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY I. T. NOVIKOV, CHAIRMAN OF THE USSR GOSSTROY.

V. G. IVANOV"

3. IF WE WISH TO PURSUE GEN. MORRIS' INITIATIVE ON MANAGEMENT OF LARGE CONSTRUCTION (REF A), EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT US OBTAIN WRITTEN SOVIET ACCEPTANCE AND A CONCRETE PROGRAM FOR THE PROPOSED VISIT OF THE US DELEGATION IN "MANAGEMENT OF LARGE-SCALE CONSTRUCTION" BEFORE WE DEFINITELY AGREE TO PROPOSED VISIT OF SOVIET SPECIALISTS TO THE US. ENERGY CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS (PARA 3, REF B) COULD PROVIDE USEFUL SUBJECT FOR US SPECIALISTS TO STUDY. BAM WOULD APPEAR TO BE ANOTHER SUITABLE SUBJECT FOR STUDY OF SOVIET EXPERIENCE IN MANAGEMENT OF LARGE SCALE CONSTRUCTION.

4. WE WILL ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN DETAILED ITINERARY INFORMATION FROM SOVIETS FOR VISIT OF US SPECIALISTS ASSUR AND MELLOR. WE WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION THAT SOVIET PROPOSED

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DATES ARE ACCEPTABLE TO THESE US SPECIALISTS. TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HOUSING, AGREEMENTS, CONSTRUCTION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MOSCOW06424
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780142-0153
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197804103/aaaadjxo.tel
Line Count: 170
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 036a35a6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 13809, 78 MOSCOW 5158
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2826555
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-USSR HOUSING AGREEMENT: CONSTRUCTION IN EXTREME GEOLOGICAL AND CLIMATIC CONDITIONS (10.05)
TAGS: TGEN, UR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/036a35a6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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Declassified/Released
US Department of State
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20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014